

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A display structure and security device for displaying items of merchandise; the combination comprising:

a display structure having an outer surface;

a security device removably mountable to the display structure;

the security device having a base and a first rod;

the first rod extending outwardly from the outer surface of the display structure when the security device is mounted to the display structure;

the base having locked and unlocked positions; the unlocked position of the base allowing the security device to be removed from the display structure;

a lock carried by the base; the lock locking the base in the locked position in abutment against the outer surface of the display structure;

the base cooperating with the outer surface of the display structure and the first rod to prevent the security device from being removed from the display structure when the base is in the locked position in abutment against the display structure; and

a key configured to unlock the lock to allow the base to move from the locked position to the unlocked position.

2. (original) The combination of claim 1, wherein the first rod is adapted to carry the items of merchandise; and the first rod having an outer end over which the items of merchandise are able to be removed from the security device.

3. (original) The combination of claim 2, wherein the lock is configured to allow the items of merchandise to be removed when the lock is locking the base in the locked position.

4. (original) The combination of claim 3, further comprising a second rod disposed adjacent the first rod; the second rod having an outer end.

5. (original) The combination of claim 4, further comprising an end assembly carried by the outer end of the second rod; the end assembly adapted to prevent the rapid removal of the items of merchandise from the first rod.

6. (original) The combination of claim 5, wherein the end assembly includes a biased member that abuts the outer end of the first rod.

7. (original) The combination of claim 6, wherein the end assembly is a cup that surrounds a portion of the outer end of the first rod.

8. (original) The combination of claim 1, wherein the lock includes a biased lock element that is movable between locked and unlocked positions.

9. (canceled)

10. (original) The combination of claim 1, wherein the base member slides from the locked position to the unlocked position.

11. (original) The combination of claim 10, wherein the first rod has a longitudinal axis and the base sliding in a direction substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the first rod.

12. (currently amended) A display structure and security device for displaying items of merchandise; the combination comprising:

a display structure having an outer surface;

a security device removably mountable to the display structure;

the security device having a base and a first rod;

the first rod extending outwardly from the outer surface of the display structure when the security device is mounted to the display structure;

the first rod being adapted to carry the items of merchandise;

the first rod having an outer end over which the items of merchandise are able to be removed from the security device;

an end assembly disposed adjacent the outer end of the first rod; the end assembly adapted to prevent the rapid removal of the items of merchandise from the first rod;

the base movable between locked and unlocked positions; the unlocked position of the base allowing the security device to be removed from the display structure;

a lock carried by the base; the lock locking the base in the locked position in abutment against the outer surface of the display structure;

the lock being configured to allow the items of merchandise to be removed when the lock is locking the base in the locked position;

the base cooperating with the outer surface of the display structure and the first rod to prevent the security device from being removed from the display structure when the base is in the locked position; and

a key configured to unlock the lock to allow the base to move from the locked position to the unlocked position.

13. (currently amended) The combination of claim 12, wherein the end assembly includes a second lock that locks the end assembly in a position adjacent the outer end of the first rod.

14. (currently amended) The combination of claim 13, wherein the second lock of the end assembly may be unlocked with the key used to unlock the lock carried by the base.

15. (currently amended) A display structure and a security device for displaying items of merchandise; the combination comprising:

a display structure having an outer surface;

a security device mountable to the display structure;

the security device having a base and a first rod;

the first rod extending outwardly from the outer surface of the display structure when the security device is mounted to the display structure;

the first rod being adapted to carry the items of merchandise;

the first rod having an outer end over which the items of merchandise are able to be removed from the security device;

the base having locked and unlocked positions; the unlocked position of the base allowing the security device to be removed from the display structure;

a lock locking the base in the locked position in abutment against the outer surface of the display structure;

the lock being configured to allow the items of merchandise to be removed when the lock is locking the base in the locked position in abutment against the display structure; and

the base cooperating with the outer surface of the display structure and the first rod to prevent the security device from being removed from the display structure when the base is in the locked position.

16. (original) The combination of claim 15, wherein the lock includes a biased lock element that is movable between locked and unlocked positions.

17. (canceled)

18. (original) The combination of claim 15, wherein the base member slides from the locked position to the unlocked position.

19. (original) The combination of claim 15, wherein the lock is carried by the base.